

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-31 stand rejected.

I. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-13, 16-28 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Getchius et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,643,640). In response, Applicants respectfully reject these rejections. As the Examiner is well aware, for a claim to be anticipated under §102, each and every element of the claim must be found within the cited prior art references.

The rejected claims recite a plurality of distributed worker systems acting as data servers, which the Examiner has equated to servers 808...810 shown in Figure 2 of *Getchius*. The claims also recite a coordinator system configured to communicate with the plurality of worker systems through the Internet. The Examiner has equated such a coordinator system as being equivalent to data manager 864 shown in Figure 4 of *Getchius*.

Data manager 864 is part of server 808 as clearly indicated in Figure 4 of *Getchius*. Therefore, looking at Figure 2, data manager 864 lies within each of servers 808...810 of Figure 2. The Examiner asserts that *Getchius* discloses that the network is the Internet by citing column 4, lines 39-43. This language merely refers to how a user can access, with a web browser through the Internet, the online query tool, which is found in Figure 2 as a user 800 using network 802 to access the front end server 804 and hardware router 806, with the query tool being underneath hardware router 806.

Again, the claims recite that the coordinator system communicates with the plurality of worker systems through the Internet. *Getchius* does not teach that the data manager 864 communicates with each of the servers 808...810 using the

Internet. The only network that is taught in *Gretchius* as being equivalent to the Internet is network 802. As a result, *Gretchius* does not anticipate the rejected claims.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 14-15 and 29-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Getchius* in view of *Nisan et al.* Applicants respectfully traverse. As noted above, *Gretchius* does not teach all of the claim limitations contrary to the Examiner's assertions. For this reason, the §103 rejection also fails.

IV. CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-31 are now in condition for allowance and request an early allowance of these claims.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining problems.

Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

Patent Agent and Attorney for Applicants

By: 

Richard E. Frankeny

Reg. No. 47,573

Kelly K. Kordzik

Reg. No. 36,571

P.O. Box 50784
Dallas, Texas 75201
(512) 370-2872